

THE BROAD AX

Published Weekly

In this city since July 19th, 1899, without missing one single issue, Republicans, Democrats, Catholics, Protestants, single Taxers, Priests, infidels or anyone else can have their say as long as their language is proper and responsibility is fixed.

The Broad Ax is a newspaper whose platform is broad enough for all, ever claiming the editorial right to speak its own mind.

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PART OF BABYLONIAN EPIC IS TRANSLATED

Missing Book of Gilgamesh, Regarded as One of Oldest Poems in World.

Philadelphia.—In the University of Pennsylvania Museum Journal published recently is the translation of a Babylonian tablet, which will be of interest to the historical, religious and literary world. It is one of the missing books of the epic of Gilgamesh, regarded as one of the oldest and noblest poems in the world. The epic was composed about the time of Abraham, but all known tablets and fragments of tablets containing it date from a much later period. George Smith made the first discoveries more than forty years ago. The tablet in the University museum was probably written between 600 B. C. and 300 B. C., he says. It was translated by Dr. Stephen Langdon, curator of the Babylonian section of the University museum, and, according to that scholar, contains important new material bearing on the whole epic and also supplies missing data and mentions hitherto unrecorded nations. It tells the story of how barbarous man, in the person of Enkidu, is redeemed by the love and devotion of a woman. Gilgamesh, a half mythical king, by many identified with Nimrod, ruled so cruelly that the people asked the gods for relief. The mother goddess made from clay a wild satyr, covered with hair, but strong enough to oppose Gilgamesh, who was two-thirds a god. Eventually Enkidu is changed by love of a woman to a civilized being, loses his hair and becomes a rival of Gilgamesh, with whom he has a terrific combat. Finally the men become friends. Gilgamesh forsakes his evil ways, and the two heroes start on adventures, which are told in the other tablets already well known.

WILL RUN CANTEENS.

Girls and Boy Scouts Will Dispense Eatables to Militiamen.

New York.—Canteen stations, at which girls and boy scouts in uniform will dispense coffee, chocolate, buns, sandwiches and cold ham to the soldiers, sailors and militiamen detailed on guard duty, are to be established in New York and other cities throughout the country, according to an announcement by Mrs. William Carroll Rafferty of the Waldorf-Astoria, wife of Colonel Rafferty, commandant at Fort Hamilton.

Mrs. Rafferty has been made honorary commandant of the emergency canteen stations to be opened here after the plan originated by Mrs. James Montgomery Hendrick in London. Uniforms are now being made for girls of the Young Women's Christian association, who will be in attendance.

ROMANCE NOT DEAD; HERE'S A CINDERELLA.

New York.—Who says romance is dead or never shows itself in big cities? Miss Minerva Menke of New York insists it is not. Five months ago she lost a pump—size No. 2—as she was alighting from a trolley car. The footwear caught in the step. The motorman drove on, and a passenger, Jack Wolfson, found it. He advertised for the fair owner. She answered. He called—then called often. Soon Miss Menke will be Mrs. Wolfson.

Emperor and Czar.

The Czar Ferdinand of Bulgaria, notwithstanding his numerous visits to Vienna, never succeeded in making himself welcome to the Austrian aristocracy. For a long time the aged emperor refused to receive him. After much useless scheming to get the ear of Francis Joseph he was advised to obtain the aid of Mme. Schratz, who held at Schoenbrunn an influential position.

Ferdinand sent to this favorite a jewel box with a note: "I desire to offer to you the earrings that my mother wore until her death. Deign to accept them and intercede in my favor with the emperor."

Mme. Schratz used her kindly offices, and Francis Joseph consented to receive the king of the Bulgars. Ferdinand had brought a napkin filled with papers that he wished to show to the emperor. After Ferdinand's departure the emperor, turning to his grand chamberlain, said: "It is curious that a king should be so lacking in manners. This fellow has spoken to me as though I were a mere notary!"

Welding Glass.

Welded glass suitable for certain optical instruments and other apparatus is a novel material that is stated to be of great practical value as well as much interest. As the welding process is described by Parker and Dalladay to the Faraday Society of London, the glass surfaces to be joined are placed in good optical contact under pressure and are heated to a carefully predetermined temperature, which, to avoid distortion of optically worked surfaces, must not approach too near what is defined as the "annealing point." This point of appreciable softening is determined for any kind of glass by noting the temperature at which the internal heat stresses seen in the glass with polarized light quite suddenly disappear. Similar glasses unite perfectly well below this point, but with very unlike kinds the softer becomes distorted before the harder is hot enough to make a good weld.

Stewed Apples.

To stew apples so each quarter is unbroken and so clear one can almost see through it is an art, and yet it is a simple thing to do if one only knows how. Peel tart apples very thin, cut them in quarters and remove the cores and seeds. As fast as you can peel and quarter them drop the apples in a saucepan in which you have already placed cold water to the depth of two inches. When the apples are all in put the saucepan over a slow fire, cover it till the water reaches the boiling point, then remove the cover and let the apples simmer almost imperceptibly till you can pierce them easily with a toothpick; then sprinkle the sugar over them and let them just simmer until it is all melted. Remove the saucepan from the fire and let it stand where the apples will get cold before turning them into a dish for the table.

Bumps on the Head.

The lump raised by a blow on the head is due to the resistance offered by the hard skull and its close connection with the movable elastic scalp by many circumscribed bands of connective tissue. The result of a blow when the scalp is not cut is the bruising and laceration of many of the small blood vessels or capillaries. Blood or its fluid constituent, serum, is poured into the meshes of the surrounding connective tissue, which is delicate, spongy, distensible and cellular, and the well known bump or lump is quickly formed. This cannot push inward at all and naturally takes the line of least resistance. Similar bumps may be formed on the shin in exactly the same way, for the shin bone also is covered only by skin and subcutaneous connective tissue.

Wisdom of Persia.

Purity is for man, next to life, the greatest good. That purity is procured by the law of Mazda to him who cleanses his own self with good thoughts, words and deeds.

Thou shouldst not become presumptuous through any happiness of the world, for the happiness of the world is such like as a cloud that comes on a rainy day, which one does not ward off by any hill.—From the Zend-Avesta, Ancient Persian Scriptures.

Continental Congress.

The first session of the continental congress was held in Carpenter's hall, Philadelphia, Sept. 5, 1774, with forty-four members present. All the colonies were represented except Georgia and North Carolina. Peyton Randolph of Virginia was president and Charles Thomson was secretary.

Correct.

"It's easy to find out what time it is," said a married man. "If the hall clock says 5:20, and the drawing room clock says 5:50, and the dining room clock says 6:05, and my watch says 6:15, and my wife's little dinky watch says 6, it's 6 o'clock in our house."—Exchange.

Dad Gets Back.

"So you are going to marry a chorus girl, hey?"
"Now, don't kick up a fuss, dad. Two can live as cheaply as one."
"I'll give you a chance to prove that. Not a cent increase of allowance do you get."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Perseverance.

Perseverance is more prevailing than violence, and many things which cannot be overcome when they are together yield themselves up when taken little by little.

To know how to wait is the great secret of success.—De Maistre.

PAYROLL OF ARMY

Big Task Getting Money to Uncle Sam's Troops.

RATES HIGH UNDER NEW LAW.

Biggest Pay of Any Officer in the Field Is That of Lieutenant General, Which Is \$11,000 a Year—United States Aviation Force Offers Wide Field and Is Remunerative.

Washington.—Uncle Sam for the first time in nineteen years is getting ready to pay a big field army. The army on the border was designated as a departmental force. With 2,000,000 men scheduled to serve with the colors just as soon as they can be obtained, a big job faces the quartermasters at each of the six department headquarters, and the finance division of the depot here. The finance division of the depot in Washington is under the direction of Major George C. Barnhardt. It pays off all retired officers and soldiers under the war depot in the city, some in the Philippines and some in Texas. Already it has a big task, and with the increase of the army it will be loaded down with work.

The highest pay of any officer in the field is that of lieutenant general, which is \$11,000 a year. There is no active lieutenant general now, however. Generals Miles, Bates and Young, who reached that rank, are all retired.

The pay of a major general is \$8,000 a year at the time of his appointment, and he gets a 10 per cent increase each five years. This 10 per cent increase each five years also applies to brigadier generals, colonels, lieutenant colonels, majors, captains, first lieutenants and second lieutenants.

The pay of a brigadier general is \$6,000 a year; a colonel, \$4,000, and lieutenant colonel, \$3,500. Other salaries for line office are major, \$3,000 a year; captain, \$2,400; first lieutenant, \$2,000; second lieutenant, \$1,700.

First and second lieutenants are very much in demand. Examinations are being held in many parts of the country to fill up the ranks of lieutenants in order that the big army of recruits may be drilled.

The aviation corps, which offers a wide field and which is to receive much attention, in addition to opportunities for service, is attractive from the standpoint of pay.

While on duty that requires him to participate regularly and frequently in aerial flights, each duly qualified military aviator receives an increase of 75 per cent over the salary which the pay of his grade entitles him to.

Chaplains appointed to the army will receive \$2,000 a year, the pay of a first lieutenant.

Privates receive \$15 a month. In case they are sent to Europe they will get an increase of 20 per cent or \$18 per month. A certificate of merit entitles a soldier to \$2 a month more, and there is yet an additional sum for expert riflemen, sharpshooters and marksmen. Cooks receive \$30 a month.

GROWS HAIR FOR GIRL.

Man Arrested Tells Story About Accident to Daughter.

Sacramento, Cal.—Because his little daughter two years ago, when she was but three years of age, fell into the fire and burned her scalp to a crisp, so that hair never again will grow thereon, Henry Hamilton of Idaho, now working on a nearby ranch, is growing a luxuriant head of hair, it being his idea when he returns home to have the hair cut and made into a wig for his little girl.

The story came out when Hamilton, who had been arrested while on a visit to this city, was questioned by Max P. Fisher as to the cause of the flowing locks.

Hamilton said he had come to California to work during the winter because he could not get steady employment in Idaho during the cold weather. He added he expected to return home in a few weeks and prepare the wig for which he has been undergoing ridicule because of his long hair. After his story had been verified he was released.

MRS. GEORGE DEWEY'S PLEA

Enlist in Navy First, Says Admiral's Widow.

Washington.—A national campaign to promote recruiting for the navy and marine corps has been started by the woman's section of the Navy league. Mrs. George Dewey, widow of the late admiral and president of the woman's section, has sent this appeal to all chapter heads:

"Urge all young men of your community who are without dependents to enlist in the navy and marine corps, our first line of defense. There merit is recognized and promotion comes speedily. Send in the names of eligibles to the woman's section, Washington. Ask the newspapers in your neighborhood to co-operate with us. Help our country now, and may God bless your efforts and give us security."

Almost 1,000 in Family.

Hiawatha, Kan.—The biggest family in this country has almost 1,000 members. It is at Reserve, nine miles north of here. Reserve is a small town of 200 or more people with an average Kansas population in the country surrounding for an area of six miles. Yet in the town and the entire area of country there are not more than ten families who are not related to each other by ties of blood or marriage.

WAR'S GOLDEN AGE.

Cardiff's Subscription to British War Loan Is \$150,000,000.

Cardiff, Wales.—Subscriptions from Cardiff to the new British war loan amounted to more than \$150,000,000, an average of \$750 for every man, woman and child in the city. This remarkable contribution is an indication of the golden age which the war has brought to Cardiff. In no British city has such vast wealth been earned so easily and quickly.

At the outbreak of the war Cardiff had the largest export trade in the country. Freightage began to increase. Ships doubled, trebled, quadrupled in value. Young business men, enterprising and daring, bought whole fleets on a speculative basis which would almost make a New York curb broker hesitate.

Among the new millionaires of Cardiff are fourteen young men who before the war were shipping clerks earning not more than \$10 a week. It has not been the owners only who have profited. First class dock laborers, especially trimmers, have earned as high as \$100 a week. The miners, too, have earned big money, and the shopkeepers, especially the jewelers and the department stores, have never known such prosperous times.

TO DIG UP BANDIT'S LOOT.

Man Says He Has Map of Buried Oklahoma Treasure.

Columbus, Ind.—J. N. Swain of Denver, who has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Swain, west of this city, has left hurriedly for Tulsa, Okla., to hunt for \$200,000 in buried treasure.

Several years ago Swain was a nurse in a Denver hospital, where a man known as Oklahoma Charley was a patient. Oklahoma Charley, Swain said, had been a bandit and buried large amounts of money in three different places near Tulsa.

Before he died he gave Swain three diagrams showing where the money is buried. It all amounts to \$200,000. Oklahoma Charley said. The supposed bandit charged Swain with finding his daughter, a half breed, wishing the girl to share in the money.

Swain said he never thought much of the affair until he read in a newspaper that Scout Younger was getting ready to dig for buried treasure near Tulsa. Then Swain caught the first train for Tulsa.

ASHES ON LAKE BOTTOM.

Scientists Will See if There Is a Volcano There.

San Francisco.—A strange phenomenon is afflicting the waters of the Laguna and the members of the San Luis Obispo (Cal.) Rod and Gun club. Whether the bed of the lake harbors a semislave volcano, geyser or other eruptive force is still to be determined.

Weird tales are also being told of a floating island in the lake, the waters of which are no longer clear, but turbid. In the bottom of the lake a sediment which resembles volcanic ash has been discovered.

An effort is to be made to secure a scientific investigation of the strange phenomenon by scientists from the state university.

In the meantime sportsmen are wondering what effect the disturbances in the lake are having on the fish that inhabit it. Fishermen who cast their lines for black bass on the opening day of the season have failed to get even a most remote sign of a nibble.

VASSAR GIRLS TO TRAIN.

Abandon Festivities to Study Women's Work in War.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y.—At a meeting of the Vassar College Students' association extensive preparedness measures were taken. The spring program was changed from a series of week end festivities to a strict curriculum of voluntary courses in which each girl will be prepared in some way to be of real service to the nation.

All college events calling for a large expenditure of money will be eliminated or modified. The money and the time will be given over to instruction in wireless telegraphy, library work, Red Cross training, automobile mechanics and operation and stenography. Military drill was crossed from the list as being impracticable.

Commencement exercises will be greatly simplified. The hoop dance and procession of the daisy chain will be omitted. The third hall play and the senior prom are also stricken off.

HAIR CUTS BOOSTED.

But Members of Baldhead Club Plan a Back Fire.

Milford, Conn.—The price of a hair cut in Connecticut cities was boosted from 25 cents to 35 cents by barbers throughout the state. Led by members of the Baldhead Club of America, a revolution against the barbers is now in progress and a remonstrance against the action was sent to the state barbers' commission at Hartford. The Baldhead club plans vengeance with a capital V—"No tips" is the word being passed down the line. At the head of the protesting phalanx are George C. Woodruff, president of the club; John Rodemeyer, originator of the club, and Lew Stone of Winsted.

Had to Promise to Win Her.

Valparaiso, Ind.—Before she would marry him here recently Mrs. Edna H. Jewett exacted a promise from Otto J. Wankle that he would become an American citizen. Wankle is an Austrian, and Mrs. Jewett refused to sacrifice her own Americanism. The couple came here from Janesville, Wis.

Modern Dreadnaughts.

Beyond all doubt modern dreadnaughts represent the highest level of controlled strength that the human race has yet seen. The fact that 25,000 tons or more of metal can be driven through water at the speed of an express train while its big guns hurl shells weighing three-quarters of a ton to a distance of twenty miles is a miracle in mechanism.

During the evolution of the warship to its present state of efficiency marine engineers have been faced with the problem of protecting vital parts of the vessel from the ever increasing hitting power of large shells. In other words, the fighting value depended upon its ability to take as well as give hard knocks. Some idea of the difficulty may be gathered from the fact that a fifteen inch shot strikes a blow at its maximum point of speed capable of lifting 50,000 tons a foot from the ground.—London Standard.

Swamp Lands.

The national chamber of commerce declares that had not the hospital corps of the army definitely determined the status of the mosquito and thus caused menacing swamp lands to be drained it is an open question whether the building of the Panama canal would have been possible.

In following up this work we find that the United States in draining breeding places of the mosquito has reclaimed thousands of acres of land and made them available for agricultural purposes. There are approximately 100,000,000 acres of swamp lands in the country where for years the mosquito has held undisputed sway, of which 75,000,000, or about one-eighth of the total area of the country, can be reclaimed for the plowshare. The only value of swamp lands lies in its possibility of reclamation; otherwise it is a serious liability as a breeder of disease.—Leslie's.

The Crested Fly Catcher.

Why does the crested fly catcher select a dried snake skin to line his nest? Some naturalists believe it is to render the nest waterproof. Others think the dried skin serves as a burglar alarm, to rattle at the approach of a squirrel or other enemy.

This bird builds his nest in hollow trees, stumps or posts. Sometimes he rents the abandoned home of the woodpecker. Professor H. A. Surface, Pennsylvania state zoologist, tells of one that usurped a rural mail box for his flat. Of recent years they have been known to inhabit box homes put up for their special benefit.

So if you want to encourage the crested fly catcher, build him a box nest. He'll pay the rent many times over. He eats beetles, flies, grasshoppers, butterflies and moths.—Exchange.

A Dangerous Precedent.

The worst case of law versus justice and common sense is one which Montaigne relates as having happened in his own day. Some men were condemned to death for murder. The judges were then informed by the officers of an inferior court that certain persons in their custody had confessed themselves guilty of the murder and had told so circumstantial a tale that the fact was placed beyond all doubt. Nevertheless it was deemed so bad a precedent to revoke a sentence and show that the law could err that the innocent men were delivered over to execution.—London Mail.

Among the Accidents.

Amateur Tenor—That's odd. I can't find any account of my singing at the Swellmore's musicale last evening. His Friend—Where did you look for it? Amateur Tenor—Among the musical notes, of course. His Friend—It might be in the paper after all. Why not try some other department?—Exchange.

An All Around Boss.

"But," exclaimed the man of delicate sensibilities, "will your conscience permit you to do as you suggest?"
"Look here, friend," answered the New York politician, "I am accustomed to be boss even of my own conscience."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

Agriculture.

I know of no pursuit in which more real and important service can be rendered to any country than by improving its agriculture.—George Washington.

Modern Machinery.

Not to see poetry in the machinery of this present age is not to see poetry in the life of the age. It is not to believe in the age.—Gerald Stanley Lee.

PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT.

Hardening of the Arteries. Hardening of the arteries cannot be cured. The vessels have been overextended day by day and white, inelastic fibers have taken the place of the elastic fibers that have been lost. The elastic fibers can never be restored. But one can regulate himself so that his life may yet be long and comfortable. Temperance in eating, drinking and working must be the unalterable rule of conduct.

The man with arteriosclerosis should have his blood pressure taken periodically. In case of dizziness and a considerable rise in pressure he should guard against apoplexy by starving and purging. When the pressure rises suddenly and sharply he should have his urine examined for albumen, as Bright's disease is even more of a menace than apoplexy.

LEAGUE WILL START TO TRAIN IMMIGRANTS

Form of Oath Equivalent to Enlistment Pledge Drawn Up.

New York.—A movement to train New York's immigrant population in readiness for military service was started at a meeting held in the offices of the National Liberal Immigration league. The league has been at work on the situation concerning the part immigrants will take in any national crisis for the last eight years and has the approval of the war department.

This consists of a recruiting campaign on the east side for the Marine brigade, as it will be called. The league has been offered by the president, Dr. J. Levenson, and is open for recruiting. Applicants will enlist without any stipulation and will take an oath which virtually binds them to federal military service for the duration of the war. A form of oath equivalent to the army enlistment pledge has been drawn up by the adjutant general of the eastern department at the league's request.

Recruits will be trained under competent instructors and then will be available either to be mustered into the regular army, the national guard or service as reserve officers if they show progress enough. There will be no stipulation that they be accepted in a body, keeping their racial unity in companies or other units, but will go where assigned.

JAPANESE ARMY TO HOLD SHAM BATTLE OF SOMME

Will Apply Lessons of Great Struggle in Europe to Grand Army Maneuvers.

New York.—The grand army maneuvers in Japan next November will be held in the country adjacent to Lake Biwa, in Shiga prefecture, near Kyoto, says the East and West News. Headquarters will be located in the town of Hikone, of which the famous Lord Li, assassinated on dolls' day many years ago, was the feudal chief. To provide for the final review by the emperor a few rice fields will be cleared for that purpose.

A great feature of the war play will be the conduct of battles after the latest methods adopted by the Germans and the allies in the valley of the Somme, northern France. Geographically the lay of the land about Lake Biwa, the largest lake in Japan, closely resembles that of the Somme war theater. Staff officers familiar with the ground in France will conduct the operations from which the soldiery and underofficers will acquire a knowledge of the latest features of modern warfare. Airplanes and airplanes will also be actively employed for the first time in Japan.

The art of war has advanced a hundred years since the battle of the Marne, two and a half years ago.

NEW U' BOAT DESTROYER.

Will Be Turned Over to Government Early in July.

Wilmington, Del.—A submarine destroyer of a new type which is pronounced by experts to be the most efficient conceived is being constructed for Alfred I. du Pont and when completed early in July will be turned over to the government for use against U' boats.

The craft, which is being constructed by the Herreshoffs at Bristol, R. I., is of all steel torpedo boat destroyer construction. It is 110 feet long, has a fifteen foot beam and a draft of only four and one-half feet. The latter dimension is so small as to render the boat immune from submarine torpedoes.

The destroyer has a guaranteed speed of twenty-seven miles an hour. The two high pressure steam generators will develop approximately 1,500 horsepower. Oil, which is used as fuel, can be carried for a cruise of 1,200 miles at fifteen knots or 650 miles at full speed.

PREPARES OWN FUNERAL.

Thought He Had Cancer—Provided Corpse by Committing Suicide.

Bishop, Cal.—After having prepared carefully for his own funeral John Shortall, a mining man, went out and shot himself through the head. Death was instantaneous. A month ago he had undergone an operation for a growth on his lip and had become obsessed with the fear that it was cancer. This led him to self destruction. Shortall was sixty-four years old and had been long in the Owens valley, a mining property, a promising copper proposition, is located in Meclano, between Benton and Laws.

MUST NOT ABUSE FLAG.

Desecrators Will Be Arrested, Says Justice Department.

Washington.—Warning against desecration of the American flag by juveniles was issued by the department of justice. The following notice was sent to federal attorneys and marshals: "Any alien enemy tearing down, soiling, abusing or desecrating the United States flag in any way will be regarded as a danger to the public peace or safety within the meaning of regulation 12 of the proclamation of the president, issued April 6, 1917, and will be subject to summary arrest and confinement."